

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-7 are amended and claim 8 is added.

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Eum, U.S. Patent No. 5,953,573. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Eum fails to disclose a machine with a center roller, at least one pressure roller, a tension roller, a reversing roller and an endless belt, wherein the endless belt is guided around a second portion of a periphery of the pressure roller and the pressure exerted by the pressure roller on the center roller is adjustable by an adjustment of a tension in the endless belt by means of the tension roller, as recited in claim 1.

Eum discloses a printer with a pressing roller 102, a transfer roller 103, a backup roller 113, a driving roller 112 and a belt 111 (Fig. 1) that allegedly correspond to the center roller, the pressure roller, the tension roller, the reversing roller and the endless belt as recited in claim 1 (see page 2 of the Office Action). However, the belt 111 is guided around the periphery of the backup roller 113 (tension roller) and not the transfer roller 103 (pressure roller). In other words, Eum discloses the opposite of claim 1, because the belt 111 is guided around the periphery of the backup roller 113 (tension roller) and not around the periphery of the transfer roller 103 (pressure roller).

Eum thus suffers deficiencies as identified on page 2 of Applicant's specification, because Eum can only apply a linear pressure from the transfer roller 103 to the backup roller 113. A linear pressure is only applied because the endless belt 111 only contacts a point on the transfer roller 103. Furthermore, the portion where the belt 111 contacts the transfer roller 103 is not diametrically opposite a portion where the transfer roller 103 exerts a pressure on the pressing roller 102.

Furthermore, Eum is only related to a printer and not to the patterning of a textile web. An image is transferred from the belt 111, to the transfer roller 103, and then to a sheet of paper 101. As such, Eum fails to provide any suggestion or motivation to adjust pressure in order to obtain a uniform linear pressure for a textile web. Eum also fails to provide any suggestion or motivation as to how the tension in the belt 111 is adjusted by the driving roller 112 or how an adjustment in the tension of the belt 111 affects the pressure between the transfer roller 103 and the pressing roller 102.

Eum fails to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claim 1 as well as the additional features recited in the dependent claims. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Eum in view of Gorondy, U.S. Patent No. 4,420,307. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Gorondy fails to overcome the deficiencies of Eum because Gorondy also fails to guide a belt around the periphery of a pressure roller. Accordingly, Eum and Gorondy fail to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claim 1 as well as the additional features recited in claim 4. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-8 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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